



Clifford Holroyde Specialist SEN College

## Clifford Holroyde SEN College

### Child Protection Policy

The governing body minutes reflect that this policy was last reviewed by the governing body on: 20<sup>th</sup> October 2017

This policy provides guidance to all adults working within the school whether paid, voluntary or directly employed by the school or by a third party.

#### **1, Child Protection Statement:**

'Our school is committed to safeguarding children and promoting children's welfare and expects all staff, governors, volunteers and visitors to share this commitment and maintain a vigilant and safe environment. Everyone has a responsibility to act without delay to protect children by reporting anything that might suggest a child is being abused or neglected. It is our willingness to work safely and challenge inappropriate behaviours that underpins this commitment. The school seeks to work in partnership with families and other agencies to improve the outcomes for children who are vulnerable or in need.'

'Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is everyone's responsibility. Everyone who comes into contact with children and their families and carers has a role to play in safeguarding children. In order to fulfil this responsibility effectively, all professionals should make sure their approach is child-centred. This means that they should consider, at all times, what is in the best interests of the child' (DFE 2016)

#### **2, Definitions:**

A child includes any young person under the age of 18yrs.

Child Protection: *'Where a child is suffering significant harm, or is likely to do so, action should be taken to protect that child.'*

Safeguarding Children: *'Action should also be taken to promote the welfare of a child who is in need of additional support, even if they are not suffering harm or at immediate risk.'*

*Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined as protecting children from maltreatment; preventing impairment of children's health or development; ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care; and taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.'*

Keeping Children Safe in Education (DfE 2016)



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### **3, Policy Aims:**

- The aim of our policy is to ensure that responsibilities and procedures are fully understood and that everyone can recognise signs and indicators of abuse or neglect and respond to them appropriately.
- We aim to ensure that the school's practice meets local and national guidance.

### **4, Key Principles:**

- The child's needs and welfare are paramount. All children have a right to be protected from abuse and neglect and have their welfare safeguarded.
- All children and young people should be listened to and their views and wishes should then inform any assessment and provision for them. Clifford Holroyde staff and visitors should always act in the interests of the child / young person in order to protect them.
- Our school recognises that scrutiny, challenge and supervision are the key to safeguarding children and young people.
- At Clifford Holroyde we are committed to working with other agencies to provide early help for children before they become at risk of harm or require a 'child in need' statutory assessment. 'Early Help means providing support as soon as a problem emerges, at any point in a child's life, from the foundation years through to the teenage years.' (DfE 2016)
- 'All staff should be aware of the early help process, and understand their role in it. This includes identifying emerging problems, liaising with the designated safeguarding lead, sharing information with other professionals to support early identification and assessment and, in some cases, acting as the lead professional in undertaking an early help assessment.' (DfE 2016)

Within our school staff are informed of the early help process and what early help can look like for a young person and family. The designated safeguarding lead is readily available throughout the day to discuss with staff any emerging problems, equally throughout full staff meetings and subsequent teacher and support staff meetings every week issues can be raised. The designated safeguarding lead liaises on a daily basis with outside agencies involved with the support of our young people. Should the need arise the designated safeguarding lead will undertake an early help assessment and remain the lead professional for that family.

- 'All staff should be aware of the process for making referrals to children's social care and for statutory assessments under the Children's Act 1989 that may follow a referral, along with the role they might be expected to play in such assessments.' (DfE2016)



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Again all staff at Clifford Holroyde are informed of how to complete the above during their annual safeguarding training, all new staff are informed during the induction process and throughout the year staff are reminded of what process should be followed as minuted within staff meeting notes. The safeguarding board within the staff room also reflects what processes staff should follow.

- All of our staff are equally responsible to report their concerns about a child or the behaviour of any adult **without delay** to the Designated Safeguarding Lead. Whilst the Designated Safeguarding Lead will normally make referrals to Children's Services, **any** staff member can refer their concerns to children's social care directly in emergencies or if they felt they need to do so. (Liverpool Careline 0151 233 3700)
- Everyone has responsibility to escalate their concerns and 'press for reconsideration' if they believe a child's needs remain unmet or if the child is failing to thrive and in need or if the child is at risk of harm. 'Concerns about a child should always lead to help for a child at some point.' (DfE 2016)
- As a school we understand it is our responsibility to request a statutory assessment led by a social worker for any child in need, as defined under the Children Act 1989, who is unlikely to achieve or maintain a satisfactory level of health or development, or their health and development will be significantly impaired, without the provision of services.
- Keeping Children Safe in Education (DfE 2016) reminds us that all staff should maintain an attitude of "it could happen here" where safeguarding is concerned.
- The school in partnership with other agencies will work to promote the welfare of children and protect them from harm, including the need to share information about a child in order to safeguard them. 'Fears about sharing information cannot be allowed to stand in the way of the need to promote the welfare and protect the safety of children.' Working Together to Safeguard Children (DfE 2015).
- The designated safeguarding lead and other members of the senior leadership team
- will work with other agencies to ensure any actions that are part of a multi-agency coordinated plan are completed in a timely way.
- The school will follow the Local Authority and Liverpool Children's Safeguarding Board's procedures and provide them with information as required.
- Staff, young people, children and families will need support following child protection processes being implemented.
- Children, young people have a right to learn ways in which to keep themselves safe from harm and exploitation.



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## **5. Legislation and Guidance:**

Schools and colleges must have regard for the DfE statutory guidance 'Keeping Children Safe in Education (DfE 2016). **This child protection policy should be read alongside this statutory guidance and all staff must read and understand at least part 1 of this guidance.** All staff at Clifford Holroyde have been issued with a copy of part 1 and the document has been discussed within staff meetings. There is a signed and dated record within school showing staff have received this information. Minutes taken from staff meeting will reflect that this document has been discussed with staff.

Local authorities have a duty to make enquiries under [section 47](#) of the **Children Act 1989** if they have reasonable cause to suspect that a child is suffering, or is likely to suffer significant harm to enable them to decide whether they should take any action to safeguard and promote the child's welfare. There may be a need for immediate protection whilst this assessment is carried out.

A 'child in need' is defined under the **Children Act 1989** as a child who is unlikely to achieve or maintain a satisfactory level of health or development or their health and development will be significantly impaired without the provision of services or a child who is disabled. A social worker will lead and co-ordinate any assessment under [section 17](#) of the **Children Act 1989**.

Section 175 of the **Education Act 2002** places a duty on local authorities (with regards to their educational functions, and governing bodies of maintained schools and further educational settings, which include sixth-form colleges) to exercise their functions with a view to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children who are pupils at a school, or who are students under 18 years of age attending further educational institutions. The same duty applies to independent schools (which include Academies and Free Schools) by virtue of regulations made under section 157 of the same Act.

**Working Together to Safeguard Children** (DfE 2015) provides additional guidance and clearly states:

'Protecting children from harm and promoting their welfare depends upon a shared responsibility and effective joint working between different agencies'

In addition to this the Working Together guidance also reinforces the need to take action to provide Early Help before child protection is required:

'Providing early help is more effective in promoting the welfare of children than reacting later. Early Help means providing support as soon as a problem emerges, at any point in a child's life, from the foundation years through to the teenage years.'  
(DfE 2016)

Here at Clifford Holroyde as mentioned previously in section 4 of this policy we understand our responsibility to engage with other professionals in Early Help Assessments when a child's needs according to the Liverpool Children's



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Safeguarding Board Responding to Need and Level of Needs framework sit below the requirement for a statutory assessment.

**The Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015** places a duty upon local authorities and educational providers to 'have a due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism'. The DfE has provided statutory guidance for schools and child care providers: '**The Prevent Duty**' (June 2015). The guidance summarises the requirements on schools and child care providers in terms of four general themes: risk assessment, working in partnership, staff training and IT policies. Our school will ensure that staff are aware of the indicators of extremism and radicalisation and know how to respond in keeping with Local and National guidance. Staff will use their judgement in identifying children who might be at risk of radicalisation and act proportionately which may include making a referral to the Channel programme. All staff have received WRAP training that has been delivered by the Prevent Co-ordinator. Equally children and young people will be made aware of the risks and support will be available to them. At Clifford Holroyde we will ensure that our young people are safe from terrorist and extremist material when accessing the internet within school. The Government has developed an 'educate against hate' website that provides information and resources for schools and parents to support them to recognise and address extremism and radicalisation in young people. [www.educateagainsthate.com](http://www.educateagainsthate.com). Further links can be found on the schools website with information for both young people and parents / carers.

**'Section 5B of the Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003 (as inserted by section 74 of the Serious Crime Act 2015)** places a statutory duty upon **teachers** along with regulated health and social care professionals in England and Wales, to report to the the police where they discover (either through disclosure by the victim or visual evidence) that FGM appears to have been carried out on a girl under 18 yrs of age. Those failing to report such cases will face disciplinary sanctions. It will be rare for teachers to see visual evidence, and they should not be examining pupils, but the same definition of what is meant by "to discover that an act of FGM appears to have been carried out" is used for all professionals to whom this mandatory reporting duty applies. Information on when and how to make a report can be found at 'Mandatory reporting of female genital mutilation procedural information'. Teachers **must** personally report to the police cases where they discover that an act of FGM appears to have been carried out. Unless the teacher has good reason not to, they should also still consider and discuss any such case with the school's designated safeguarding lead and involve children's social care as appropriate. The duty does not apply in relation to at risk or suspected cases (i.e. where the teacher does not discover that an act of FGM appears to have been carried out, either through disclosure by the victim or visual evidence) or in cases where the woman is 18 or over. In these cases, teachers should follow local safeguarding procedures' (DfE 2016)

If required staff at Clifford Holroyde will also consult the government guidance **Multi-agency statutory guidance on female genital mutilation (revised 2016)**. In addition to this as a school we recognise the importance schools have in safeguarding children from forced marriage. (The forced Marriage Unit has



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published **Multi-agency guidelines**, with pages 32-36 focusing on the role of schools. Should staff need advice or guidance they can contact the Forced Marriage Unit on 020 7008 0151 or email: [fmfu@fco.gov.uk](mailto:fmfu@fco.gov.uk). DfE2016)

Whilst Clifford Holroyde SEN College is a school solely for boys all staff need to be aware of the issues mentioned above and know how to respond and act should they be faced with this issue.

Early years providers have a duty under section 40 of the **Childcare Act 2006** to comply with the welfare requirements of the **Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage**. At Clifford Holroyde our Outreach team adhere to these welfare requirements.

**The Teaching Standards (DfE 2013)** also requires all teachers to 'uphold public trust in the profession and maintain high standards of ethics and behaviour, within and outside school, including:

- treating pupils with dignity, building relationships rooted in mutual respect, and at all times observing proper boundaries appropriate to a teacher's professional position
- having regard for the need to safeguard pupils' well-being, in accordance with statutory provisions
- showing tolerance of and respect for the rights of others'

In addition, the **Sexual Offences Act 2003** makes it clear that all members of staff are in a position of trust and would therefore be committing a criminal offence to have a sexual relationship with a young person below the age of 18, even if that pupil is over the age of consent. In addition it would be a breach of trust to have a relationship with any school student over the age of 18.

**Clifford Holroyde SEN College also takes into account additional DfE guidance including:**

Working Together to Safeguard Children (DfE, 2015).

What to do if you are worried a child is being abused 2015 – Advice for practitioners DfE 2015.

The Prevent Duty – Departmental advice for schools and childcare providers DfE 2015.

How social media is used to encourage travel to Syria and Iraq (DfE Briefing note for schools).



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Disqualification under the Childcare Act 2006

The Ofsted School Inspection Handbook and Inspecting Safeguarding in Early Years, Education and Skills

Other DfE Statutory guidance including: Attendance and Children who go missing from home or care which is found here <https://www.gov.uk/topic/schools-colleges-childrens-services/safeguarding-children>

## **6. Communicating with Parents and Visitors:**

The following statement is provided to parents so they are aware of the school's responsibilities:

*'Clifford Holroyde SEN College ensures children learn in a safe, caring and enriching environment. Children are taught how to keep themselves safe, to develop positive and healthy relationships, how to avoid situations where they might be at risk including by being exploited.'*

*The school also has a statutory responsibility to share any concerns it might have about a child in need of protection with other agencies and in particular police, health and children's services. Schools are not able to investigate child protection concerns but have a legal duty to refer them. In most instances the school will be able to inform the parents/carer of its need to make a referral. However, sometimes the school is advised by children's services or police that the parent/carer cannot be informed whilst they investigate the matter. We acknowledge the anxiety parents/carers understandably feel when they are not told about any concerns from the outset. The school follows legislation that aims to act in the interests of the child.*

*Clifford Holroyde SEN College will always seek to work in partnership with parents and other agencies to ensure the best possible outcomes for the child and family.'*

The following notice is made available to all visitors in reception. In addition all visitors are provided with additional safeguarding guidance.

*'Our school is committed to safeguarding children and promoting children's welfare and expects all staff, governors, volunteers and visitors to share this commitment and maintain a vigilant and safe environment. Everyone has a responsibility to act without delay to protect children by reporting anything that might suggest a child is being abused or neglected. We would expect you to also report to the Headteacher or Designated Safeguarding Lead any behaviours of any adults working in the school that may concern you. By signing our visitor's book you are agreeing to follow Clifford*



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*Holroyde's safeguarding advice to visitors and where appropriate the code of conduct for staff and volunteers'.*

The names and photographs of the Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead and those who deputise for them are displayed in the reception area and the staffroom.

### **Safeguarding Framework:**

In addition to this child protection policy the school has procedures or policies in relation to:

- Attendance
- Administering Medicines
- Anti-Bullying including Cyber Bullying
- Alternative and Off-Site Provision
- Behaviour For Learning
- Code of Conduct for staff, governors and volunteers (guidance on safer working practices)
- Children in Care (Looked After Children)
- Clubs, trips, educational visits and extended school activities
- Data Protection
- Drug and Substance misuse
- Disability Objectives and Access Plan
- Equal Opportunities
- Emergency Planning
- Fire Drills
- First Aid
- On-line safety
- Risk Assessments
- Safe Recruitment Practices
- Managing Allegations Against Staff and Volunteers
- School and Site Security



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- Safeguarding Advice for Visitors
- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities
- Taking and Using Photographs
- Whistle-blowing

## **7, Roles and Responsibilities:**

The Head Teacher is: Mr Neil Oxley

The Chair of Governors is: Mr Terry Sweeney

The Designated Safeguarding Lead for Child Protection is: Mrs Kate Garrett

Those trained to provide cover for the role of Designated Safeguarding Lead are: Mr Neil Oxley, Mr Alan Gadsby

The nominated Safeguarding / Child Protection Governor is: Mrs Sheila Bennett

The nominated governor for dealing with allegations against the Head Teacher is: Mr Terry Sweeney

### **The Governing body of Clifford Holroyde should ensure that:**

- The school meets the statutory responsibilities set out in Keeping Children Safe in Education (DfE 2016) and Working Together to Safeguard Children (DfE 2015).
- The school has a strategy for providing early help together with other agencies and supporting children and families by carrying out early help assessments, drawing upon the LSCB's 'Responding to Needs Framework.'
- The Child Protection Policy is reviewed annually and available to parents, normally via the school's website and on request.
- All adults working within the school are aware of the school's code of conduct and this guidance is in keeping with the Safer Working Practices for Adults Working with Children (Safer Recruitment Consortium, 2016).
- The school's practice is reviewed in line with Local Authority guidance, Liverpool Children's Safeguarding Board priorities and any actions identified in the Local Authority 175 Audit are completed.
- There is a named Designated Safeguarding Lead who is a member of the schools leadership team. There are colleagues trained to provide cover for the role.
- The school has procedures in keeping with the LSCB for dealing with any allegations made against any adult working within the school.



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- There is a nominated governor, usually the chair, who is the case manager for managing any allegations against the Head Teacher.
- There is an additional nominated governor to liaise with the Designated Safeguarding Lead and champion child protection/safeguarding on behalf of the safeguarding body.
- The school follows safer recruitment procedures, including the statutory pre-employment checks on all staff working with young people. The Chair of Governors and safeguarding governor should review the school's single central record.
- The school itself is a safe environment where the views of children and families are listened to and where children are taught about safeguarding and how to keep themselves safe, including on the internet or when using new technology. Any complaints about services lead to improvements in practice.
- The school will ensure there are appropriate filters and monitoring systems in place in respect of internet use.
- It scrutinises the impact of the school's training strategy so that all staff, including temporary staff and volunteers, are aware of the school's child protection procedures. All staff must have child protection training which is regularly updated.
- There is effective analysis of safeguarding data including bullying, attendance, exclusions, behaviour logs, pupils taken off roll, views and the progress of vulnerable students.
- All safeguarding practices are quality assured by the leadership team, including the auditing of safeguarding records and the supervision of the Designated Safeguarding Lead and other members of the safeguarding team.
- The Governing body will appoint an appropriately trained designated teacher to promote the educational achievement of children who are looked after.

Governing bodies are accountable for ensuring the school has effective policies and procedures in place in line with local and national guidance, and for monitoring the school's compliance with them. Neither the Governing Body nor individual governors have a role in dealing with individual child protection cases or the right to know the detail of cases (except when exercising their disciplinary functions in respect of allegations against a member of staff or investigating a complaint brought to their attention).



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## **The Head Teacher will ensure that:**

- The Single Central Record is maintained and up-to-date and the safer recruitment practices set out in Keeping Children Safe 2016 are followed, including pre-employment checks. At least one member of every recruitment panel has attended safer recruitment training.
- Job descriptions and person specifications for all roles make specific reference to child protection and safeguarding.
- There is a listening culture within the school where both staff and children are able to raise concerns about poor or unsafe practices.
- Referrals are made to the Disclosure and Barring Service and / or the National College of School Leadership as appropriate.
- They liaise with the Local Authority Designated Officer where an allegation is made against a member of staff.
- The Designated Safeguarding Lead has a job description in keeping with the requirements of Keeping Children Safe in Education 2016 and that sufficient time, training and support are allocated to this role, including the appointment of colleagues able to deputise for the Designated Safeguarding Lead who have undertaken the same training.
- The curriculum provides opportunities to help students stay safe especially when on-line. Children should be aware of the support available to them. In addition to the curriculum the children and young people are informed of the support available to them through the pastoral side of the school.
- They quality assure the school's child protection practices including the auditing of safeguarding records and the supervision of the Designated Safeguarding Lead and other members of the safeguarding team to ensure that actions and decisions are reviewed appropriately.

## **Designated Safeguarding Lead**

**Keeping Children Safe in Education DfE 2016 sets out the broad areas of responsibility for the Designated Safeguarding Lead:**

### **Manage referrals**

*The Designated Safeguarding Lead Mrs Kate Garrett is expected to:*

- Refer cases of suspected abuse to the local authority children's social care as required;
- Support staff who make referrals to local authority children's social care;



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- Refer cases to the Channel programme where there is a radicalisation concern as required;
- Support staff who make referrals to the Channel Programme;
- Refer cases where a person is dismissed or left due to risk/harm to a child to the Disclosure and Barring Service as required; and
- Refer cases where a crime may have been committed to the police as required.

### **Work with others**

- Liase with Headteacher Mr Oxley to inform him of issues especially ongoing enquiries under section 47 of the Children Act 1989 and police investigations;
- As required, liase with the “case manager” (as per part four) and the designated officer at the local authority for child protection concerns (all cases which concern a staff member); and
- Liase with staff on matters of safety and safeguarding and when deciding whether to make a referral by liasing with relevant agencies. Act as a source of support, advice and expertise for staff.

### **Undertake Training**

- The designated safeguarding lead and those who deputise should undergo training to provide them with the knowledge and skills required to carry out the role. This training should be updated at least every two years. At Clifford Holroyde the Designated Safeguarding Lead, Headteacher and Assistant Headteacher attend training annually in order to keep up with any changes that have been made in legislation and procedures.
- The designated safeguarding lead should undertake Prevent Awareness Training. This has been completed along with all staff in school and in addition the designated safeguarding lead has attended further training in this area.
- In addition to the formal training that is discussed above, the designated safeguarding leads knowledge and skills should be refreshed at regular intervals, as required but at least annually, to allow them to understand and keep up with developments relevant to their role. Again this is completed by attending further training days, receiving e-bulletins and meeting and discussing with other designated safeguarding leads.



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- The designated safeguarding lead will understand the process for providing early help and intervention, for example through locally agreed common and shared assessment processes such as early help assessments;
- Have a working knowledge of how local authorities conduct a child protection case conference and a child protection review conference and be able to attend and contribute to these effectively when required to do so;
- Ensures each member of staff has access to and understands Clifford Holroyde's child protection policy and procedures, especially new and part time staff;
- Are alert to the specific needs of children in need, those with special educational needs and young carers.
- Are able to keep detailed, accurate, secure written records of concerns and referrals;
- Understands and supports Clifford Holroyde with regards to the requirements of the Prevent duty and are able to provide advice and support to staff on protecting children from risk of radicalisation;
- Obtain access to resources and attend any relevant or refresher training courses; and
- Encourage a culture at Clifford Holroyde of listening to children and taking account of their wishes and feelings, among all staff, in any measures the school may put in place to protect them.

### **Raise Awareness**

- The designated safeguarding lead should ensure Clifford Holroyde's child protection policies are known, understood and used appropriately;
- Ensure Clifford Holroyde's child protection policy is reviewed annually (at a minimum) and the procedures and implementation are updated and reviewed regularly, and work with the governing body regarding this. The designated safeguarding lead will attend full governor's meetings, in addition the designated safeguarding lead meets with the safeguarding governor to review and discuss procedures and practices.
- Ensure the child protection policy is available publicly and parents are aware of the fact that referrals about suspected abuse or neglect may be made and the role that Clifford Holroyde has in this; and



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- Link with the Liverpool Safeguarding Childrens Board to make sure staff are aware of training opportunities and the latest policies on safeguarding.

### **Child protection file**

- When pupils leave Clifford Holroyde the designated safeguarding lead will ensure their child protection file is transferred to the new school or college as soon as possible. This is transferred separately from the main pupil file, thus ensuring secure transit and confirmation of receipt being obtained.

### **Availability**

- During term time the designated safeguarding lead Mrs Garrett or a deputy should always be available during school hours for staff within Clifford Holroyde to discuss any safeguarding concerns. This is in place every day within our school. The Designated Safeguarding Lead, Headteacher or Assistant Headteacher will never be off-site at the same time. If any one person is off-site then they are still contactable via mobile phone.

According to Local Guidance it is expected that the Head Teacher Mr N Oxley will be the case manager for any allegations against staff and make referrals to the Disclosure and Barring Service or National College of School Leadership.

In addition to the role outlined in Keeping Children Safe the Designated Safeguarding Lead Mrs Garrett is also expected to ensure that:

- Children's Services is notified if a child subject to a Child Protection Plan is absent for more than two days without explanation and the social worker is informed when a child subject to a Child Protection Plan or a Child in Need Plan moves to a new setting.
- A training log is kept of all child protection training include the names of those attending. All staff must have regular training.
- Child protection records are kept securely and separately from the child's normal file
- The school attends and contributes to Child Protection Case Conferences and Child in Need Meetings, ensuring actions are completed in a timely manner.
- The school escalates its concerns with other agencies when a child's needs are not being met.
- All staff read part 1 of the DfE (2016) guidance Keeping Children Safe in Education and have available to them other key documents and guidance.



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### All staff and volunteers should:

- Contribute to ensuring students learn in a safe environment.
- Read part 1 and Annex A of the DfE (2016) guidance Keeping Children Safe in Education and engage in training which enables them to identify children who may need additional help or who are suffering or likely to suffer significant harm and take appropriate action. Staff should have an understanding of the specific safeguarding issues outlined in part 1 of the DfE (2016) guidance Keeping Children safe e.g. fabricated or induced illnesses, faith abuse. Be aware that behaviours linked to the likes of drug taking, alcohol abuse, truanting and sexting put children in danger.
- Report any concerns about a child's welfare without delay to the Designated Safeguarding Lead or any of the safeguarding team. Report any concerns without delay about the behaviour of an adult towards a child to the Head Teacher, Designated Safeguarding Lead, Chair of Governors or Local Authority Designated Officer for Allegations against Staff (0151 233 3700). Understand their responsibility to escalate their concerns and 'press for reconsideration' if a child remains at risk or their needs are not met. This includes the understanding that any member of staff can make a referral to Children's services if required to. (Liverpool careline 0151 233 3700). Teachers **must** personally report to the police cases where they discover that an act of FGM appears to have been carried out.
- Follow the school's policies including this child protection policy and the school's code of conduct for adults and the Guidance for Safer Working Practices for Adults Working with Children (2015) which all staff have a copy of.
- Understand their responsibility to escalate their concerns and 'press for reconsideration' if a child remains at risk or their needs are not met. This includes the understanding that any member of staff can make a referral to Children's Services (Liverpool Care Line 0151 233 3700).
- Be aware safeguarding issues can manifest themselves via peer on peer abuse. This is most likely to include, but not limited to: bullying (including cyberbullying), gender based violence / sexual assaults and sexting. Staff should recognise that children are capable of abusing their peers. Staff must challenge any form of derogatory and sexualised language or behaviour. Staff should be vigilant to sexualised / aggressive touching / grabbing particularly towards girls. Behaviours by children should never be passed off as 'banter' or 'part of growing up'. The DfE states '*peer on peer abuse should be taken as seriously as abuse by adults and should be subject to the same child protection procedures. Professionals should not dismiss abusive behaviour as normal between young people and should not develop high thresholds before taking*



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*action.* Concerns should be referred to a member of the senior leadership team who may need to consult with the Designated Safeguarding Lead. Victims of peer on peer harm should be supported by Clifford Holroyde's pastoral system and referred to specialist agencies including for example, CAMHS, Barnados, Brook. A risk assessment will be in place for each individual pupil in the school and this should be reviewed and updated. Clifford Holroyde's curriculum will support our young people to become more resilient to inappropriate behaviours towards them, risk taking behaviours and behaviours that children and young people may be coerced into including 'sexting' or 'initiation/hazing' behaviours.

- Understand that some children, including those with Special Educational Needs which the majority of the pupils who attend Clifford Holroyde have or Looked After, may be more vulnerable to abuse. **It should be highlighted that 'Children with Special Educational Needs (SEN) and disabilities can face additional safeguarding challenges this can include:**
  - Assumptions that indicators of possible abuse such as behaviour, mood and injury relate to the child / young person's disability without further exploration;
  - Children and young people with SEN and disabilities can be disproportionately impacted by things like bullying- without outwardly showing any signs; and
  - Communication barriers and difficulties in overcoming these barriers'. (DfE 2016)

The DfE has provided additional practice guidance 'Safeguarding Disabled Children' DfE 2009. This available to staff in the safeguarding board within the staff room.

- Staff have access to Clifford Holroyde's managing allegations against Adults procedures and Whistle Blowing Policy (Safeguarding board in Staff Room).
- (The NSPCC whistleblowing helpline is available for staff who do not feel able to raise concerns regarding child protection failures internally. Staff can call: 0800 028 0285, the line is available from 8.00am to 8.00 pm, Monday to Friday and Email: [help@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:help@nspcc.org.uk).)
- Have access to 'What to do if you are worried a child is being abused 2015 – Advice for practitioners DfE2015'

## **8, Procedures for reporting Child Protection or Child Welfare Concerns:**

1. All concerns should be reported without delay directly to the Designated Safeguarding Lead, Designated Safeguarding Deputies, Head Teacher or any member of the School Leadership Team. This should be followed by a written account of the concerns completed on the school's Child Protection/ Cause for Concern form.
2. Consideration will need to be given to immediately protecting the child and contacting the police or other emergency services.



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3. The Designated Safeguarding Lead will follow the LSCB and Local Authority Procedures and consider the child's needs alongside the LSCB's Levels of Needs/Responding to Needs Framework and consider whether an early help assessment of referral to children's services is needed.
4. Concerns about a child should always lead to help for a child. The school may need to escalate its concerns with Children's Services to ensure a referral is accepted or work with other agencies to ensure an Early Help Assessment is completed.

School Improvement Liverpool School's Safeguarding Handbook and Part 1 of Keeping Children Safe in Education (DfE 2016) provides key flowcharts and guidance that will support staff and volunteers understanding and decision making. School Improvement Liverpool School's Safeguarding Handbook will provide additional guidance about indicators of abuse and harm and how to respond to a disclosure.

Clifford Holroyde has adopted these flow charts and guidance in order to support our staff to make a referral themselves should that become necessary.

In addition any staff member who has a concern about a child's welfare should follow the referral processes set out in paragraphs 21-27 of Keeping Children Safe in Education (DfE 2016). Staff may be required to support social workers and other agencies following a referral.

If a teacher in the course of their work in the profession, discovers that an act of Female Genital Mutilation appears to have been carried out on a girl under the age of 18yrs the teacher must report this to the police. Keeping Children Safe in Education (DfE 2016) provides additional guidance.

## **9. Additional Child Protection Guidance provided to all adults working with young people which will include:**

- Part 1 of Keeping Children Safe in Education (DfE 2016).
- The School's Code of Conduct for staff and volunteers.
- Guidance for Safer Working Practices for Adults Working with Children (Safer Recruitment Consortium 2015).
- A flowchart summarising the child protection procedures.
- Definitions of abuse or neglect and possible indicators.
- Identified groups of children more vulnerable to abuse.
- Specific guidance related to Female Genital Mutilation, Forced Marriage, Child Sexual Exploitation, Extremism and Radicalisation, Neglect and online-safety.



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- Dealing with allegations against staff and volunteers procedures.
- Whistleblowing procedures.
- 'What to do if you are worried a child is being abused 2015 – Advice for practitioners DfE 2015'

## **10. On-line safety, data protection and the use of digital photographic equipment**

The school's on-line /E-safety/ Acceptable User policy clearly outlines the way in which the school uses technology and the measures in place to ensure safe and responsible use by all. There is a clear code of conduct for staff and volunteers for using new technologies, mobile phones and personal photographic equipment around children. Clifford Holroyde will consider, in particular, Looked After Children (Children in Care) who might be put at risk by being included in publicity materials or school photographs.

The DfE highlights the risks of new technologies:

'The use of technology has become a significant component of many safeguarding issues. Child sexual exploitation; radicalisation; sexual predation – technology often provides the platform that facilitates harm. The breadth of issues classified within online safety is considerable, but can be categorised into three areas of risk:

- **Content:** being exposed to illegal, inappropriate or harmful material
- **Contact:** being subjected to harmful online interaction with other users
- **Conduct:** personal online behaviour that increases the likelihood of, or causes, harm.'

Staff should bring immediately to the attention of the Designated Safeguarding Lead and Senior Leadership Team any behaviours by adults or children themselves that may be risky or harmful.

## **11. Monitoring Attendance**

A child missing from an education setting is a potential indicator of abuse or neglect including exploitation. Local Authority guidance procedures will be followed for dealing with a child who is missing from education, particularly on repeated occasions. Unauthorised attendance will be closely monitored. The attendance of children with known welfare and attendance concerns will be monitored closely, particularly those with chronic poor attendance or persistent absentees. Clifford Holroyde will also scrutinise the attendance of off-site provision to ensure children are attending and are safe. Similarly the attendance of children who are vulnerable or with known welfare and safeguarding concerns such as those who have a Child Protection Plan, a Child In Need, are Children Looked After and SEN will be monitored on a daily and weekly basis. Social care will be informed immediately when there are unexplained absences or attendance concerns. It is important that the school's attendance team, including the EWO, school nurse and Safer Schools Officer, are aware of any safeguarding concerns. It is critical that when a child is not attending school their



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welfare is confirmed and expected practice would be for an appropriate professional to visit the home and speak to the child away from their parents/carers, particularly if there are any safeguarding concerns. It is essential that all staff are alert to signs to look out for and the individual triggers to be aware of when considering the risks of potential safeguarding concerns such as travelling to conflict zones, Female Genital Mutilation and Forced Marriage.

Please refer to the school's Attendance policy which sets out the ways in which attendance is monitored here at Clifford Holroyde and the procedures that are in place for both pupils who are school based and those who are placed on the school's Engagement Programme. Attendance monitoring for all pupils is the responsibility of the Designated Safeguarding Lead Mrs K Garrett who meets weekly with the Education Welfare Officer and discusses both ongoing cases and attendance issues arising. These weekly meetings are monitored by the Headteacher. Outside agencies are also invited to attend these meetings.

## **12. Private Fostering**

Our school has a mandatory duty to report to the Local Authority if they believe a child is subject to a private fostering arrangement. (This does not include close family relatives e.g. Grandparent, brother, sister, auntie or uncle.) A private fostering arrangement is made without the knowledge of the local authority for the care of a child under the age of 16 years (under 18 for children with disabilities) whereby the child is in the care of someone other than their parent or close relative. Further guidance is available in Keeping Children Safe in Education.

## **13. Complaints**

Complaints about safeguarding should follow the school's complaints policy. The school adopts the Local Authority whistle blowing procedures. The Local Authority Officer for dealing with allegations against staff and volunteers can be contacted through Careline on 0151 233 3700

**This policy has been adopted by the school having been sent out as guidance from Liverpool Local Authority.**

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**Signed:**

**Chairperson of the governing body**

**Date:**

**Signed:**

**Headteacher**

**Date:**

**Review Date: Autumn 2018**



*Clifford Harrop Specialist SEN College*